STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 2003-453

July 1, 2003

TOWN OF CASTINE WATER DEPARTMENT Application for Approval of Issues of Securities (§902) (\$1,100,000 Bonds) ORDER APPROVING ISSUES OF SECURITIES

WELCH, Chairman; NUGENT and DIAMOND, Commissioners

On June 18, 2003, Town of Castine Water Department (Castine) filed with the Commission its application for authority to issue its General Obligation Bonds in a sum not to exceed \$1,100,000 through Quick & Reilly, Inc., at an annual rate not to exceed 5 percent. The debt will be paid over a term not to exceed 15 years. In this Order, we approve Castine's application.

Castine requires these funds for the purposes of refunding the Town's 1994 General Obligation Bonds. The refundings will result in significant net present value savings to the Town due to the intervening decline in interest rates since the issuance of the original bonds.

Having reviewed Castine's application, together with data filed in support of it, it is the opinion of the Commission that the proceeds of the issuance of the bonds is required in good faith for the purposes enumerated in 35-A M.R.S.A. § 901. In approving this securities issue, consistent with normal practice and pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 902(4), the Commission does not imply approval of the Water Department's capital needs or capitalization ratio for ratemaking purposes, nor does this Order limit or restrict the powers of the Commission in determining or fixing any rate.

Accordingly, we

ORDER

- 1. That the Town of Castine Water Department is hereby authorized to sell its bonds in a sum not to exceed \$1,100,000 to be used solely for the purposes described in this Order, and at a rate not to exceed 5 percent per year through Quick & Reilly for a term not to exceed 15 years.
- 2. That Castine report to this Commission, in writing, its actions pursuant to this Order within (60) days of the date of the sale of the proposed bonds, or by September 1, 2003, whichever may come first.
- 3. That the Administrative Director is hereby directed to mail an attested copy of this Order to interested parties and to close this Docket.

Dated at Augusta, Maine, this 1st day of July, 2003.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Dennis L. Keschl Administrative Director

COMMISSIONERS VOTING FOR: Welch

Diamond

Nugent COMMISSIONER ABSENT:

NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO REVIEW OR APPEAL

- 5 M.R.S.A. § 9061 requires the Public Utilities Commission to give each party to an adjudicatory proceeding written notice of the party's rights to review or appeal of its decision made at the conclusion of the adjudicatory proceeding. The methods of review or appeal of PUC decisions at the conclusion of an adjudicatory proceeding are as follows:
 - 1. <u>Reconsideration</u> of the Commission's Order may be requested under Section 1004 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (65-407 C.M.R.110) within 20 days of the date of the Order by filing a petition with the Commission stating the grounds upon which reconsideration is sought.
 - 2. <u>Appeal of a final decision</u> of the Commission may be taken to the Law Court by filing, within 30 days of the date of the Order, a Notice of Appeal with the Administrative Director of the Commission, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(1)-(4) and the Maine Rules of Appellate Procedure.
 - 3. <u>Additional court review</u> of constitutional issues or issues involving the justness or reasonableness of rates may be had by the filing of an appeal with the Law Court, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(5).

Note: The attachment of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the particular document may be subject to review or appeal. Similarly, the failure of the Commission to attach a copy of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the document is not subject to review or appeal.